Howrah is causing considerable inconvience to the Cochin bound passengers as the train reaches Cochin at night;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to change the departure time to 19 hrs. so as to enable the passengers bound for Cochin avail of local trains/buses and reach their home the same day without spending the night at the railway stations; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The train reaches Ernakulam Jn. at 6.05 P.M. and Cochin at 6.45 P.M. which are convenient timings.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Due to heavy grouping of mail/express trains and peak hours suburban trafic at Howrah, the train cannot leave earlier.

Catering services in Howrah-Cochin Express

2199. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Catering services of Howrah-Cochin Express are not upto the mark;

(b) whether any representation or suggestion has been received in this regard;

(c) if so, whether dining car is proposed to be attached to this train; and

(d) if so, when and what are the details thereof; and if not, the steps to be taken to improve the catering services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is demand for Pantry car service by this train.

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) It will be introduced when new Pantry cars become available.

Attachment of more reserved coaches to Trivandrum and Mangalore

2200. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to attach sufficient reserved coaches to Trivandrum and Mangalore in Guwahati-Cochin/Trivandrum and weekly Howrah-Cochin express trains; and

(b) if so, when and what are the details thereof; and if not the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The trains in question have adequate reserved coaches for Trivandrum/Cochin. Mangalore bound passengers can also take connecting trains at Palghat.

Reservation Quota for Passengers of Calcutta|Howrah in Guwahati-Cochin Trains

2201. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any reservation quota for passengers of Calcutta|Howrah in bi-weekly Guwahati and Cochin|Trivandrum trains; if so, the details thereot; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The following reservation quotas are

available at Howrah in weekly 940 Guwahati-Cochin Express and 902 Guwahati-Trivandrum Expresss trains :—

Train No.	Quota available at Howrah		
	AC 2T	Ist	IInd
902 Guwahati–Trivandrum Express (for Trivandrum)	2	2	2
940 Guwahati-Cochin Express (for Cochin)	..	..	2

In addition, for Howrah passengers, 8 First Classs berths plus 6 RAC seats, 18 AC 2-tier berths plus 6 RAC seats and 370 Second Classs berths plus 60 RAC seats are available in the weekly train No. 952 Howrah-Cochin Express introduced from 1.10.1987.

Teaching of Sanskrit in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

2202. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, of late, teaching of Sanskrit is being discouraged in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no posts of Sanskrit PGTs are being created leading to frustration among those who have been waiting for promotion to these posts; and

(d) if so, whether Government are reviewing the situation in the light of representations made by AIKVTA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir, Sanskrit is taught as a compulsory subject from class V to IX. Sanskrit can also be offerred as an elective subject in class XI and XII and as an additional subject in class X.

(c) and (d) Posts of PGTs in different subjects including Sanskrit are created as per the norms prescribed for such creation. Since there is no requirement at present of additional PGTs in Sanskrit, now new post of PGT in the subject is being created.

Balurghat-Malda-Calcutta Vayudoot Service

2203. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Balurghat-Calcutta via Malda Vayudoot service is closed since November, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to re-start it; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Vayudoot operations to Malda and Balurghat have been suspended since November, 1987 due to certain deficiencies in the ground nfrastructure.